

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 SCI-06

GAC-01 SCEM-02 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 H-02 PRS-01

RSR-01 /154 W

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P R 301812 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2790

INFO AEC/ GERMANTOWN

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EO: 11652: N/ A

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJ: 1974 IAEA TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

REF: A. IAEA VIENNA 2872

B. IAEA VIENNA 3316

1. SUMMARY: LDC MEMBERS OF A& B COMMITTEE PLAN TO PROPOSE INCREASE IN TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1974 TO \$5- MILLION AT MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON MAY 8-9. END SUMMARY.
2. FROM SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH BRAZILIAN RESREP AND INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR, MISSION LEARNED THAT LDC MEMBERS OF A& B COMMITTEE, AS GROUP, HAVE MET AND DECIDED TO PROPOSE RAISING TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1974 TO \$5- MILLION. THIS WOULD ENTAIL REVERSING RECOMMENDATION OF DG FOR \$3- MILLION TARGET FOR 1974 (REF A), AND WOULD DISREGARD QTE GENTLEMEN' S AGREEMENT UNQTE OF JUNE 1971 PROVIDING THAT TARGET WOULD REMAIN AT \$3- MILLION UNTIL 1974.
3. PRIMARY ARGUMENTS ADVANCED FOR SUCH PROPOSAL AS FOLLOWS:
 - A. THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL AND INCREASING NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENCY ASSISTANCE EACH YEAR WHICH SECRETARIAT FINDS TECHNICALLY ACCEPTABLE BUT WHICH CANNOT BE MET DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS. THIS YEAR, AGENCY ABLE TO MEET ONLY 40 PER CENT OF REQUESTS FOR TA MADE BY MEMBERS. TARGET MUST BE INCREASED TO IMPROVE AVAILABILITY OF AGENCY ASSISTANCE.

B. AS DG NOTES IN BUDGET, INFLATION HAS EATEN STEADILY AT REAL VALUE OF TA PROVIDED BY AGENCY. ONLY WAY TO RECTIFY THIS IS BY INCREASE IN TARGET.

C. REGULAR BUDGET INCREASES FOR 1973 AND 1974 WILL BE PRESENTED TO A& B COMMITTEE, JUNE BOARD AND GENERAL CONFERENCE TO ACCOUNT FOR EFFECTS OF DEVALUATION OF US DOLLAR ON AGENCY'S REGULAR BUDGET. REPS QUESTIONED WHETHER THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD WILLINGLY SUPPORT SUCH ADJUSTMENT FOR REGULAR BUDGET WITHOUT INCREASE IN TARGET FOR ESSENTIALLY SAME REASON.

4. APPLICATION OF GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT IS NOT SO MUCH ARGUED AGAINST AS DISREGARDED BY LDC'S. EFFORTS TO POINT IT OUT BRING RESPONSE THAT SITUATION HAS CHANGED SINCE AGREEMENT REACHED, AND INCREASE IN TARGET REQUIRED TO MEET CHANGED CONDITIONS.

5. FYI: AGENCY SECRETARIAT HAS RECEIVED SIMILAR INDICATIONS FROM LDC MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE DURING BRIEFING SESSIONS WITH THEM ON BUDGET IN PREPARATION FOR COMMITTEE MEETING. END FYI.

6. MISSION HAS NOT YET DISCUSSED ABOVE INFORMATION WITH OTHER DONOR COUNTRY REPS IN VIENNA (WHO MOSTLY VERY TIED UP IN UNIDO PC II/ IDB VII MEETING). MISSION WILL DO SO SHORTLY, AND WILL MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE OTHER DONORS (ALONG LINES PARA 7 REF B) TO ANNOUNCE ANY INCREASES IN VOLUNTARY CASH OR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS PLANNED FOR 1974 AT TIME OF A& B COMMITTEE TO ASSIST IN CONTAINING LDC PROPOSAL.

7. MISSION ALSO UNABLE AS YET TO ASSESS WHETHER LDC'S SERIOUSLY INTEND TO SEEK INCREASE IN TARGET AT THIS YEAR'S MEETING (AND PRESS MATTER TO FORMAL CONCLUSION) OR INTEND ONLY TO MAKE STRONG AND UNITED RECORD TO PREPARE GROUND FOR SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE NEXT YEAR. IF ISSUE PRESSED TO VOTE IN A& B, SOVIET POSITION (UNKNOWN) COULD BE CRUCIAL, AS THERE ARE SEVEN LDC'S, SIX WESTERN COUNTRIES, TWO EAST EUROPE AND SOUTH AFRICA ON COMMITTEE. IN ANY EVENT, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MISSION ASSESSMENT REMAINS THAT LEVEL OF TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE PRINCIPLE BUDGET ISSUE OF UPCOMING A& B COMMITTEE/ JUNE BOARD MEETINGS, AND THAT WHATEVER ACTUAL LDC INTENTIONS ARE, THEIR PRESSURE IS LIKELY TO BE INTENSE THIS YEAR.

8. MISSION WILL REPORT AS FURTHER DISCUSSIONS CLARIFY, LDC PRO-

POSAL AND DONOR COUNTRY REACTIONS. IN MEANWHILE, MISSION STRONGLY REITERATES RECOMMENDATIONS REF B THAT IT BE AUTHORIZED TO PUBLICLY ENDORSE PRINCIPLE OF INCREASE IN TARGET FOR 1975, AND TO STATE LEVEL PROPOSED, SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL ACTION, FOR US VOLUNTARY CASH AND IN- KIND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1974.

DECON 10/31/74. PORTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973IAEAV03543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730452/aaaaixta.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 IAEA VIENNA 2872, 73 IAEA VIENNA 3316
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <12-Sep-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980203
Subject: 1974 IAEA TARGET FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
TAGS: AFIN, AORG, VE, AORG, IAEA
To: AEC/ GERMANY
IO
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005